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DECEMBER JOB COUNT FOR GREATER NEW YORK AREA RISES BY 64,300 OVER THE YEAR

Total nonfarm employment for the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Metropolitan Statistical Area¹ stood at 8,504,900 in December 2005, 64,300 above its year-ago level, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The greater New York area's job count grew at a 0.8-percent pace over the 12-month period, below the 1.5-percent increase for the nation. (See chart 1.) Regional Commissioner Michael L. Dolfman pointed out that job growth at the national level has outpaced the percentage gains made locally since late 2003. In fact, the area's job growth rate has remained within the narrower range of 0.6 to 1.0 percent since February 2005, while the national rate has ranged from 1.4 to 1.8 percent. (All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Employment in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Area

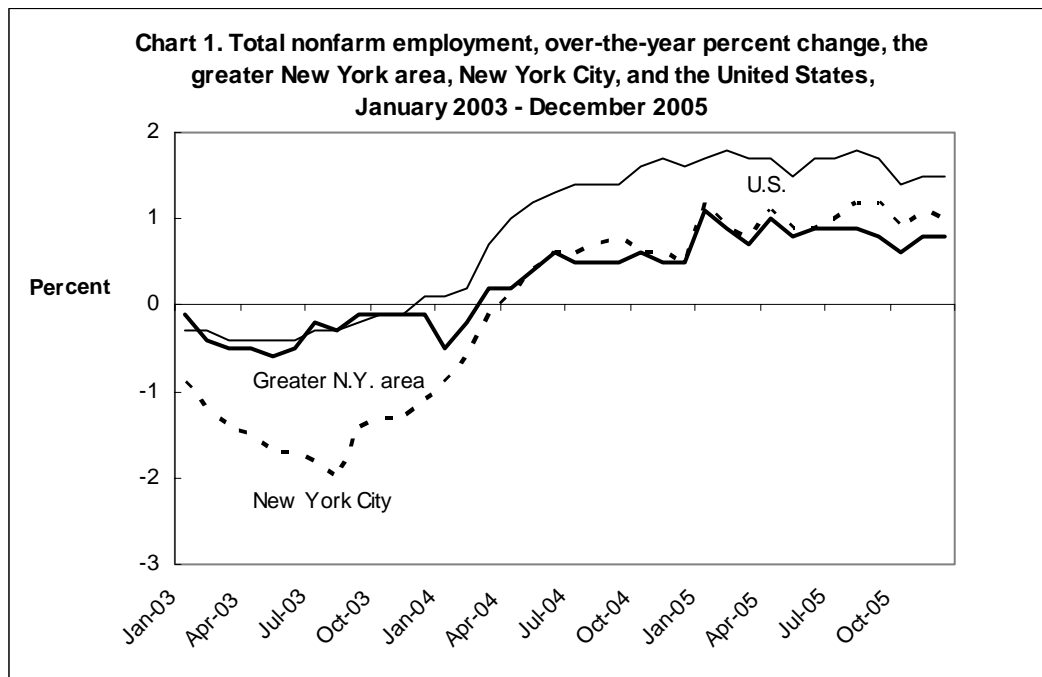
The New York metropolitan area has gained 108,300 jobs since December 2003, half the amount lost since the pre-recession peak of December 2000. In contrast, the nation's employment increases over the past two years more than offset the losses of the previous three years. As a result, the national job count in December 2005 was 1.4 percent higher than its December 2000 level, while the New York area's employment total remained 1.3 percent below.

In the greater New York area, all but one industry supersector added jobs from December 2004 to December 2005 and four added more than 10,000 jobs. Educational and health services experienced the strongest employment growth, adding 32,600 jobs over the year, about in line with the increases of the previous 10 months. Employment in leisure and hospitality rose by 15,900 from December a year ago. Jobs in this sector have grown by 10 percent from December 2000. Financial activities added 11,100 jobs over

¹ The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of New York City, Nassau, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey; and Pike County, Pennsylvania. For convenience, the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island MSA is referred to as the greater New York area throughout this release.



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the year. Despite the increase, employment in this supersector remained 4.2 percent below its pre-recession level five years earlier. Professional and business services recorded an employment increase of 10,200 from December a year ago.

Other industries with over-the-year job gains of at least 1,000 in December 2005 included other services (3,600); government (1,700); information (1,600); and trade, transportation, and utilities (1,000). For the information supersector, this was the largest over-the-year increase since September 2001. Elsewhere, employment in natural resources, mining, and construction was little changed from December a year ago and manufacturing continued to shed jobs. Manufacturing's over-the-year loss of 13,300 jobs in December 2005 was close to the average recorded during the previous ten months. However, these recent losses were considerably below those experienced during 2001 when employment declines peaked at 64,100 in December.

Metropolitan Divisions

The greater New York area contains four Metropolitan Divisions, essentially separately identifiable employment centers within a metropolitan area. Three of the four divisions added jobs over the year, with the largest gain occurring in New York-Wayne-White Plains (48,100) and smaller gains in Edison (13,800) and Nassau-Suffolk (10,100). For the New York-Wayne-White Plains Metropolitan Division, the December increase was in line with increases of the previous ten months. In contrast with the other divisions, Newark-Union shed 7,500 jobs over the year—the 21st consecutive month of job losses.

The New York-Wayne-White Plains Metropolitan Division consists of New York City and two three-county areas: Putnam-Rockland-Westchester in New York and Bergen-Hudson-Passaic in New Jersey. Of these three components, New York City accounted for most of the over-the-year increase in employment with the addition of 34,600 jobs, bringing the total number employed in the City to 3,647,200. Putnam-Rockland-Westchester added 11,300 jobs and Bergen-Hudson-Passaic 2,200; however, employment levels remained below 1 million in both these areas.

All four divisions in the greater New York area had over-the-year employment growth below that for the nation (1.5 percent), although Edison's (1.3 percent) was close. New York-Wayne-White Plains and Nassau-Suffolk followed with employment gains of 0.9 and 0.8 percent, respectively. Newark-Union, on the other hand, lost 0.7 percent of its jobs over the year. (See map 1.) However, within the New York-Wayne-White Plains Metropolitan Division, one component, Westchester-Rockland-Putnam, had above-average job growth (2.0 percent) over the year. This component has enjoyed job growth rates at or above the national average since July 2004.

Table A. Nonfarm employment, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, not seasonally adjusted
(Numbers in thousands)

Area	2004 Dec.	2005 Sept.	2005 Oct.	2005 Nov.	2005 Dec. p	Change from Dec. 2004 to Dec 2005 p
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island	8,440.6	8,346.6	8,411.5	8,471.2	8,504.9	64.3
Edison	1,024.5	1,023.2	1,028.4	1,034.5	1,038.3	13.8
Nassau-Suffolk	1,263.9	1,249.3	1,261.7	1,267.5	1,274.0	10.1
New York-Wayne-White Plains	5,110.9	5,057.1	5,095.7	5,138.5	5,159.0	48.1
Bergen-Hudson-Passaic	920.6	904.5	912.8	919.0	922.8	2.2
New York City	3,612.6	3,576.1	3,599.9	3,633.0	3,647.2	34.6
Putnam-Rockland-Westchester	577.7	576.5	580.0	586.5	589.0	11.3
Newark-Union	1,041.1	1,017.0	1,025.7	1,030.7	1,033.6	-7.5

p = preliminary.

NOTE: The Edison Metropolitan Division consists of Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Somerset Counties in New Jersey. The Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division consists of Nassau and Suffolk Counties in New York. The New York-Wayne-White Plains Metropolitan Division consists of New York City and Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam Counties in New York; and Bergen, Hudson, and Passaic Counties in New Jersey. The Newark-Union Metropolitan Division consists of Essex, Hunterdon, Morris, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

In the New York-Wayne-White Plains Metropolitan Division, employment grew by 1.7 percent or more in four industry supersectors—leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, educational and health services, and financial activities. Employment growth was strongest in leisure and hospitality, up 2.7 percent over the year. The advance in this supersector was led by job growth in the New York City component, where leisure and hospitality grew 3.0 percent; still, this was below the 3.8-percent average for the preceding 10 months. Professional and business services posted the second highest job-growth rate in both the Division (2.4 percent) and New York City (2.8 percent). Within this supersector, management of companies and enterprises and employment services posted particularly strong growth rates in both the Division (3.4 and 3.7 percent, respectively) and City (2.7 and 4.7 percent, respectively). Education and health ranked third and financial activities ranked fourth in both the Division and New York City. The job count declined over the year in four supersectors in the Division—manufacturing (-3.8 percent), natural resources, mining, and construction (-0.9 percent); information (-0.3 percent); and government (-0.2 percent). The decline in natural resources, mining, and construction reversed 10 months of over-the-year gains averaging 0.8 percent.

While the patterns of job growth in the Division and New York City were largely similar, there were some differences. Natural resources, mining, and construction experienced a sharper employment contraction in the City (-2.4 percent) than in the Division (-0.9 percent). On the other hand, the rate of job loss in manufacturing was larger in the Division (-3.8 percent) than the City (-2.6 percent). Since December 2003 the City's job count has grown by 53,300, recouping less than one-quarter of the 227,500 jobs lost during the preceding three years.

In the Edison Metropolitan Division, five supersectors experienced job growth of at least 1.7 percent in December 2005—information (7.9 percent); education and health services (6.1 percent); leisure and hospitality (3.9 percent); other services (2.0 percent); and government (1.7 percent). The rate of employment growth in education and health services was the largest over-the-year increase since December 2003. Professional and business services, down 3.3 percent, was the only sector in the Edison area that experienced a drop in employment greater than 1.0 percent.

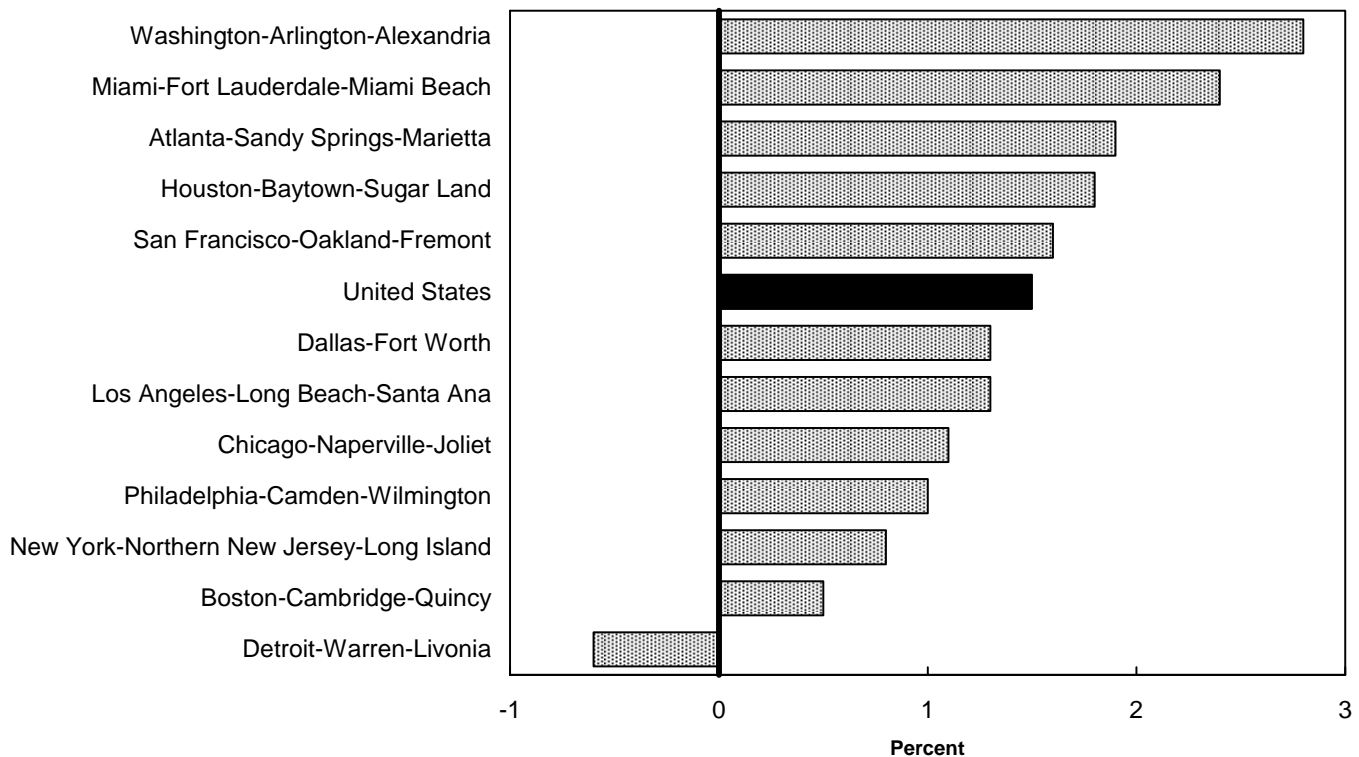
In the Nassau-Suffolk Metropolitan Division, professional and business services led all other industries with an employment increase of 2.3 percent over the year. Education and health services and other services were both up 1.8 percent. Financial activities (-0.6 percent) and manufacturing (-0.2 percent) were the only two supersectors not to add jobs from December a year ago.

In the Newark-Union Metropolitan Division, four supersectors (manufacturing; professional and business services; information; and trade, transportation, and utilities) lost jobs over the year. Of these, manufacturing experienced the sharpest rate of contraction, shedding 4.1 percent of its jobs from December 2004 to December 2005, professional and business services followed, down 3.7 percent. The information supersector lost 1.9 percent of its jobs, while trade, transportation, and utilities lost 1.0 percent. On the other hand, three supersectors had employment growth of more than 1.7 percent, led by leisure and hospitality, up 3.0 percent. Employment in natural resources, mining, and construction rose 2.1 percent and in other services, 2.0 percent.

Employment in the 12 largest areas

Among the nation's 12 largest metropolitan statistical areas in December 2005, 5 registered growth stronger than the 1.5-percent over-the-year gain for the nation. Washington-Arlington-Alexandria led the 12 areas with a 2.8-percent increase in employment, followed by Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Miami Beach at 2.4 percent, and Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta at 1.9 percent. (See chart 2.) Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land at 1.8 percent and San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont at 1.6 percent were the other two areas with job growth above the national average. With employment growth of 0.8 percent over the year, New York ranked 10th among the 12 areas, just behind Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington (1.0 percent) and ahead of Boston-Cambridge-Quincy (0.5 percent). Detroit was the only metropolitan area among the 12 that experienced an over-the-year employment loss, shedding 0.6 percent of its jobs in December 2005.

Chart 2. Over-the-year percent change in employment, 12 largest areas and the United States, December 2005



Three of the 12 largest metropolitan areas, Washington, Los Angeles, and New York, added more than 60,000 jobs over the year. In the Washington area, professional and business services experienced the strongest job growth, adding 22,500 jobs, followed by leisure and hospitality, up 11,500. In the Los Angeles area, information added 12,900 jobs, followed by professional and business services, up 11,800, and construction, up 11,000. In the New York area, as mentioned above, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality ranked first and second, respectively, in job growth. In all three of these major metropolitan areas, professional and business services added at least 10,000 jobs from December 2004 to December 2005. On the other hand, the Detroit area shed 2,500 jobs in professional and business services, the 14th straight month of job losses in this supersector. However, the employment declines in government in Detroit totaled 6,400 over the year and were larger than any experienced in the private sector in December 2005.

The Transit Strike in New York City

In New York City, the Transit Workers Union went on strike from December 20 through December 22. This strike had no effect on the employment data reported in this release. The Bureau's Current Employment Statistics survey asks employers to count jobs during the pay period including the 12th of the month. If someone was paid for any part of that pay period, that job was included in the employment count.

Technical Note

This release presents nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program for the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Metropolitan Statistical Area and the 12 largest metropolitan areas. The rankings were based on population estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2000. The CES program is a Federal-State cooperative endeavor.

Employment

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2002 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. The employment data are estimated using a "link relative" technique in which a ratio (link relative) of current-month employment to that of the previous month is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are obtained by multiplying the estimates for the previous month by these ratios. Small-domain models are used as the official estimators for the approximately 10 percent of CES published series.

Annual revisions. Employment estimates are adjusted annually to a complete count of jobs, called benchmarks, derived principally from tax reports which are submitted by employers who are covered under state unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The benchmark information is used to adjust the monthly estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one and also to establish the level of employment for the new benchmark month. Thus, the benchmarking process establishes the level of employment, and the sample is used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level for the subsequent months.

Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample survey and administrative data and thus are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability--that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data are also subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error are available for state CES data at the NAICS supersector level and for metropolitan area CES data at the total nonfarm level. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available on the BLS Web site at (<http://www.bls.gov/sae/>).

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, dated February 18, 2004. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is published annually in the May issue of *Employment and Earnings*.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings*, which is available by subscription from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (telephone 202-512-1800).

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

**Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, not seasonally adjusted
(Numbers in thousands)**

Area and Industry	2004 Dec.	2005 Sept.	2005 Oct.	2005 Nov.	2005 Dec. p	Change from Dec. 2004 to Dec. 2005	
						Number	Percent
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island MSA							
Total nonfarm	8,440.6	8,346.6	8,411.5	8,471.2	8,504.9	64.3	0.8
Total private	7,144.3	7,101.1	7,132.1	7,176.0	7,206.9	62.6	0.9
Natural resources, mining, and construction	338.1	347.4	343.6	344.0	338.5	0.4	0.1
Manufacturing	495.5	485.6	484.3	483.5	482.2	-13.3	-2.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,649.9	1,580.8	1,599.0	1,626.2	1,650.9	1.0	0.1
Information	292.5	289.0	289.2	291.7	294.1	1.6	0.5
Financial activities	778.7	786.1	786.9	787.1	789.8	11.1	1.4
Professional and business services	1,239.2	1,241.3	1,243.7	1,246.9	1,249.4	10.2	0.8
Education and health services	1,386.2	1,382.5	1,404.9	1,416.5	1,418.8	32.6	2.4
Leisure and hospitality	612.5	638.4	628.8	626.3	628.4	15.9	2.6
Other services	351.2	350.0	351.7	353.8	354.8	3.6	1.0
Government	1,296.3	1,245.5	1,279.4	1,295.2	1,298.0	1.7	0.1
Edison, Metropolitan Division							
Total nonfarm	1,024.5	1,023.2	1,028.4	1,034.5	1,038.3	13.8	1.3
Total private	873.2	876.4	876.3	880.7	884.4	11.2	1.3
Natural resources, mining, and construction	47.8	49.5	49.2	49.3	48.5	0.7	1.5
Manufacturing	82.6	81.3	81.2	81.3	82.0	-0.6	-0.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	233.8	224.8	227.4	231.6	235.3	1.5	0.6
Information	31.6	32.7	33.6	34.1	34.1	2.5	7.9
Financial activities	63.8	64.2	64.5	64.3	64.7	0.9	1.4
Professional and business services	167.2	164.8	163.7	162.9	161.7	-5.5	-3.3
Education and health services	131.3	135.7	137.3	138.7	139.3	8.0	6.1
Leisure and hospitality	74.6	82.9	78.6	77.5	77.5	2.9	3.9
Other services	40.5	40.5	40.8	41.0	41.3	0.8	2.0
Government	151.3	146.8	152.1	153.8	153.9	2.6	1.7
Nassau-Suffolk, Metropolitan Division							
Total nonfarm	1,263.9	1,249.3	1,261.7	1,267.5	1,274.0	10.1	0.8
Total private	1,061.6	1,058.0	1,062.2	1,065.5	1,071.5	9.9	0.9
Natural resources, mining, and construction	67.3	69.3	69.5	69.2	67.8	0.5	0.7
Manufacturing	89.3	88.6	88.8	88.7	89.1	-0.2	-0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	286.6	271.8	275.8	281.9	287.5	0.9	0.3
Information	29.3	29.0	28.8	29.1	29.6	0.3	1.0
Financial activities	83.8	83.4	83.3	83.2	83.3	-0.5	-0.6
Professional and business services	157.8	160.3	161.3	160.7	161.5	3.7	2.3
Education and health services	201.9	200.7	204.1	204.7	205.5	3.6	1.8
Leisure and hospitality	94.2	102.3	98.1	95.7	94.9	0.7	0.7
Other services	51.4	52.6	52.5	52.3	52.3	0.9	1.8
Government	202.3	191.3	199.5	202.0	202.5	0.2	0.1
New York-White Plains-Wayne, Metropolitan Division							
Total nonfarm	5,110.9	5,057.1	5,095.7	5,138.5	5,159.0	48.1	0.9
Total private	4,330.6	4,306.0	4,328.8	4,361.7	4,380.5	49.9	1.2
Natural resources, mining, and construction	179.8	185.0	181.1	181.3	178.1	-1.7	-0.9
Manufacturing	231.0	226.2	224.9	224.4	222.3	-8.7	-3.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	905.0	870.7	879.1	893.1	905.9	0.9	0.1
Information	205.6	202.7	202.0	203.1	205.0	-0.6	-0.3
Financial activities	548.9	556.4	557.3	557.8	559.5	10.6	1.9
Professional and business services	753.0	760.2	762.5	767.0	770.9	17.9	2.4
Education and health services	912.7	908.3	924.1	933.1	933.3	20.6	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	380.1	384.9	385.1	387.3	390.5	10.4	2.7
Other services	214.0	211.6	212.7	214.6	215.0	1.0	0.5
Government	780.3	751.1	766.9	776.8	778.5	-1.8	-0.2

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, not seasonally adjusted-Continued
(Numbers in thousands)

Area and Industry						Change from	
						Dec. 2004 to	
	2004	2005	2005	2005	2005	Dec. 2005	
	Dec.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec. p	Number	Percent
New York City							
Total nonfarm	3,612.6	3,576.1	3,599.9	3,633.0	3,647.2	34.6	1.0
Total private	3,054.7	3,039.0	3,054.4	3,080.9	3,093.7	39.0	1.3
Natural resources, mining, and construction	113.3	115.2	112.4	112.5	110.6	-2.7	-2.4
Manufacturing	115.4	115.5	114.5	114.1	112.4	-3.0	-2.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	563.2	541.6	544.1	553.2	560.5	-2.7	-0.5
Information	166.5	163.2	162.8	163.7	165.5	-1.0	-0.6
Financial activities	438.0	444.3	445.2	445.3	446.0	8.0	1.8
Professional and business services	545.1	551.3	552.6	556.3	560.1	15.0	2.8
Education and health services	680.1	676.1	689.2	697.1	697.1	17.0	2.5
Leisure and hospitality	280.0	280.6	282.3	285.7	288.5	8.5	3.0
Other services	153.1	151.2	151.3	153.0	153.0	-0.1	-0.1
Government	557.9	537.1	545.5	552.1	553.5	-4.4	-0.8
Newark-Union, Metropolitan Division							
Total nonfarm	1,041.1	1,017.0	1,025.7	1,030.7	1,033.6	-7.5	-0.7
Total private	878.8	860.7	864.8	868.1	870.5	-8.3	-0.9
Natural resources, mining, and construction	43.2	43.6	43.8	44.2	44.1	0.9	2.1
Manufacturing	92.6	89.5	89.4	89.1	88.8	-3.8	-4.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	224.4	213.5	216.7	219.6	222.2	-2.2	-1.0
Information	25.9	24.6	24.8	25.4	25.4	-0.5	-1.9
Financial activities	82.2	82.1	81.8	81.8	82.3	0.1	0.1
Professional and business services	161.2	156.0	156.2	156.3	155.3	-5.9	-3.7
Education and health services	140.4	137.8	139.4	140.0	140.7	0.3	0.2
Leisure and hospitality	63.6	68.3	67.0	65.8	65.5	1.9	3.0
Other services	45.3	45.3	45.7	45.9	46.2	0.9	2.0
Government	162.3	156.3	160.9	162.6	163.1	0.8	0.5

p =preliminary.

NOTE: Data are counts of jobs by place of work. Estimates are currently projected from March 2004 benchmark levels. Estimates subsequent to the current benchmark month are provisional and will be revised when new information becomes available.

**Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls, twelve largest metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted
(Numbers in thousands)**

Area	2004 Dec.	2005 Sept.	2005 Oct.	2005 Nov.	2005 Dec. p	Change from Dec. 2004 to Dec. 2005 p	
						Number	Percent
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	2,293.3	2,298.1	2,314.3	2,328.3	2,336.1	42.8	1.9
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA-NH	2,437.7	2,431.7	2,441.1	2,448.1	2,450.2	12.5	0.5
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI	4,454.5	4,489.4	4,498.6	4,509.4	4,504.5	50.0	1.1
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	2,734.9	2,743.8	2,752.9	2,763.9	2,771.5	36.6	1.3
Detroit-Warren-Livonia, MI	2,058.8	2,043.3	2,047.4	2,053.1	2,045.5	-13.3	-0.6
Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land, TX	2,315.3	2,334.8	2,338.8	2,349.3	2,357.8	42.5	1.8
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA	5,503.9	5,504.4	5,529.0	5,558.3	5,573.1	69.2	1.3
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Miami Beach, FL	2,357.2	2,364.7	2,378.4	2,391.9	2,412.7	55.5	2.4
New York-Northern New Jersey- Long Island, NY-NJ-PA	8,440.6	8,346.6	8,411.5	8,471.2	8,504.9	64.3	0.8
Philadelphia-Camden- Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2,792.8	2,777.2	2,798.5	2,812.5	2,821.0	28.2	1.0
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA	1,981.3	1,986.7	1,996.8	2,007.7	2,012.8	31.5	1.6
Washington-Arlington- Alexandria, DC-VA-WV	2,902.9	2,940.6	2,962.6	2,978.9	2,984.5	81.6	2.8

p =preliminary.

NOTE: Data are counts of jobs by place of work. Estimates are currently projected from March 2004 benchmark levels. Estimates subsequent to the current benchmark month are provisional and will be revised when new information becomes available. Changes were calculated using unrounded numbers.

**Map 1. Over-the-year change in employment,
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island,
December 2005**

